

IN THE CLAIMS:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1. (Canceled)
2. (Currently Amended) A wheel guide assembly for a sliding door according to ~~claim 1~~ claim 15, wherein an angle is formed between the axis of rotation and the longitudinal axis when the wheel and the axle pivot relative to each other.
3. (Original) A wheel guide assembly for a sliding door according to claim 2, wherein the angle formed between the axis of rotation and the longitudinal axis is about zero to about 30 degrees.
4. (Original) A wheel guide assembly for a sliding door according to claim 3, wherein the angle formed between the axis of rotation and the longitudinal axis is about zero to about 15 degrees.
5. (Canceled)
6. (Currently Amended) A wheel guide assembly for a sliding door according to ~~claim 5~~ claim 17, wherein the central portion of the axle is an enlarged portion of the axle.
7. (Original) A wheel guide assembly for a sliding door according to claim 6, wherein the central portion of the axle is substantially spherical in shape.
8. (Original) A wheel guide assembly for a sliding door according to claim 6, wherein the central portion of the axle is substantially ellipsoidal in shape.
9. (Previously Amended) A wheel guide assembly for a sliding door, comprising: a mounting structure with a body portion and a top portion, wherein one end of the top portion is disposed at one end of the body portion;

at least one axle with a longitudinal axis disposed on the top portion of the mounting structure; and

at least one wheel with an axis of rotation,

wherein the wheel is rotatably mounted to the axle such that the axis of rotation is not always the same as the longitudinal axis, and

wherein a central portion of the wheel includes a plurality of flexible fingers that engage the central portion of the axle.

10. (Original) A wheel assembly for a sliding door comprising:  
a wheel with a central portion that includes a plurality of flexible fingers; and  
an axle with a non-cylindrical central portion,  
wherein the plurality of flexible fingers engage the axle such that the wheel is rotatably mounted on the axle and can pivot on the axle.
11. (Original) A wheel assembly for a sliding door according to claim 10, wherein the central portion of the axle is an enlarged portion of the axle.
12. (Original) A wheel assembly for a sliding door according to claim 11, wherein the central portion of the axle is substantially spherical in shape.
13. (Original) A wheel assembly for a sliding door according to claim 11, wherein the central portion of the axle is substantially ellipsoidal in shape.
14. (Canceled)

15. (Currently Amended) A wheel guide assembly ~~according to claim 1,~~ for a sliding door comprising:

a mounting structure with a body portion and a top portion, wherein one end of the top portion is disposed at one end of the body portion;

at least one axle with a longitudinal axis disposed on the top portion of the mounting structure; and

at least one wheel with an axis of rotation, the at least one wheel having a hub portion formed of a first material and a tire portion formed of a second material,

wherein the wheel is rotatably mounted to the axle such that the axis of rotation is not always the same as the longitudinal axis,

wherein the hub portion is formed of a material having low friction with respect to the material of the at least one ~~[[axel]]~~ axle and the at least one wheel.

16. (Currently Amended) A wheel assembly according to ~~claim 1~~ claim 15, wherein the at least one wheel includes a plurality of flexible fingers.

17. (Currently Amended) A wheel guide assembly according to claim 5 for a sliding door comprising:

a mounting structure with a body portion and a top portion, wherein one end of the top portion is disposed at one end of the body portion;

at least one axle disposed on the top portion of the mounting structure, wherein a central portion of the axle is non-cylindrical in shape; and

at least one wheel rotatably mounted to the axle, the at least one wheel having a hub portion formed of a first material and a tire portion formed of a second material,

wherein the hub portion is formed of a material having low friction with respect to the material of the at least one ~~[[axe:]]~~ axle and the at least one wheel.

18. (Currently Amended) A wheel assembly according to ~~claim 5~~ claim 17, wherein the at least one wheel includes a plurality of flexible fingers.

19. (Previously Presented) A wheel assembly according to claim 10, wherein the wheel has a hub portion formed of a first material and a tire portion formed of a second material

20. (Currently Amended) A wheel assembly according to claim 10, wherein the hub portion is formed of a material having low friction with respect to the material of the ~~[[axel]]~~ axle and the wheel.

21. (Previously Presented) A wheel assembly according to claim 10, wherein each of the flexible fingers are contoured to the shape of the outer surface of the axle to surround the axle.

22. (New) A wheel guide assembly according to claim 10, wherein the wheel includes a hub portion and a tire portion, and the plurality of flexible fingers are integrally formed with and form a one-piece, unitary structure with the hub portion.

23. (New) A wheel guide assembly according to claim 10, wherein each of the flexible fingers has a concave surface, which is substantially similar to the shape of the exterior surface of the non-cylindrical central portion of the axle, and each flexible finger is constructed and arranged to flex outwardly from an axis of the axle when the non-cylindrical central portion of the axle is captured by the flexible fingers and positioned adjacent the concave surfaces of the flexible fingers.